



Spokane ♦ Vancouver ♦ Pasco ♦ Puyallup ♦ Bellevue ♦ Seattle ♦ Everett

This summer Governor Gregoire and her senior staff are visiting several communities across the state, engaging citizens in a meaningful dialogue about state government's priorities, performance and accountability. She is reaching out beyond the lobbyists and special interests who traditionally have had the most access to state government decision makers. As she puts it,

"We can't set the state's priorities alone in Olympia. I am reaching out to hear directly from the citizens, so they can help me set priorities and identify ways to measure whether state government is working better or not."

The citizen engagement process is designed in three tiers to engage citizens in a meaningful dialogue, and to gather information from multiple sources.

1. **Citizen Workshops:** Fifty citizens are selected at random to represent a cross-section of each community. These citizens meet with members of the governor's staff for a three-hour workshop to discuss, design, and prioritize performance measures to track progress in critical services, such as health care, the economy, transportation and education.
2. **Community Leader events:** Community leaders representing a broad spectrum of interests and organizations meet with the governor's senior staff to discuss the priorities developed in the citizen workshops, delving further into the most important issues in that community.
3. **Town Halls:** In an open community forum, Governor Gregoire will ask citizens directly what results they think their state government ought to be accountable for delivering.

Governor Gregoire will use the citizens' ideas to inform state budget development in the fall. She also conducts biweekly performance review sessions with agency directors, holding them personally accountable for delivering real results and ensuring that citizens get a good return on their tax dollars.

A final report on the summer's tour will be completed by August 31, 2006.

Puyallup Citizen Forum: Summary Report

Monday, July 24, 2006 at Pierce College

Who was at the Puyallup Citizens Forum?

- 48 citizens, a representative sample drawn from a list of people who voted at least once in past 4 elections. Gender: 47% male, 53% female
- Where from: 21% Bonney Lake; 6% Lakewood; 13% Puyallup; 15% Spanaway; 4% Sumner; 38% Tacoma; 2% Other
- Age Group: 10% were 18-35, 40% were 36-50, 33% were 51-64, and 17% were 65 or older
- Household: 36% Single, no children; 28% Couple, no children; 2% Single, children at home; 34% Couple, children at home
- Employment: 25% private sector; 25% public sector, 25% not employed ; 25% retired

Here's what the citizens in Puyallup said they cared most about, in rank order of priority:

1) education 2) health 3) economic vitality 4) vulnerable populations

Overall Comments:

- State government is working: Better (33%) About the same (51%) Worse (16%). This closely matches the responses from a statewide survey conducted in April 2006, although more thought state government was working better (17% statewide) than the same.
- General frustration about government "not making sense." Vote against something, we get it anyway. Tear schools down, and then build more. Charge for parks, but build a stadium.

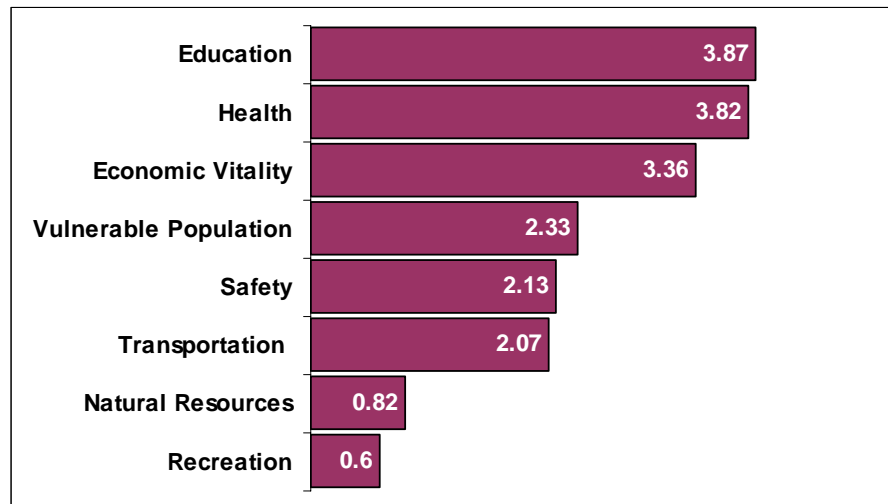
What is not working very well in state government today:

- Don't see a lot for the (tax) money
- Education – Money spent on the WASL
- Tax on license plates
- Gas tax
- People driving without insurance; take license away or don't issue it
- Charging money for parks -- but spend millions on sport teams
- We vote against something, and we get it anyway
- Not making enough progress with "green" programs – building permits, replanting trees
- Prevention of credit card fraud
- Tear down schools, and then build more
- Consistency in the adoption system
- Funding for colleges; increasing tuition
- Government allows too much development too fast, when the infrastructure is not in place to support the growth.

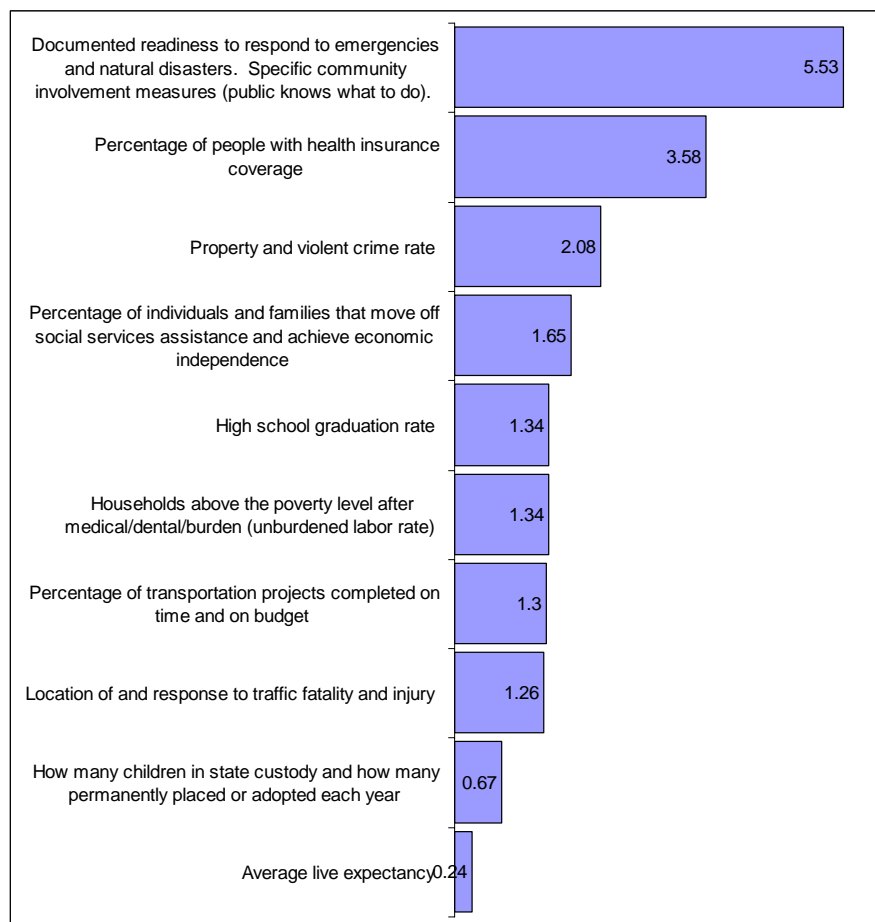
What is working well in state government today:

- State roads; certain roads
- Mental health
- Mass transit
- State Patrol
- Anti-discrimination bill
- Exports

Here's what the citizens in Puyallup said they cared most about, in rank order of priority:



Here are the top 10 "Vital Signs" – how Puyallup citizens will know if state government is working better (or worse)



For more information about the Governor's Listening to You tour, visit www.governor.wa.gov